

**RESOLUTION BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF
THE WEST I-10 CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
IN SUPPORT OF
THE ROYAL INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT'S
TAX RATIFICATION ELECTION & SCHOOL BOND ELECTION**

WHEREAS, the West I-10 Chamber of Commerce is committed to the success of the Royal Independent School District ("District") and believes that a successful school district is beneficial to area businesses, workforce, and the community as a whole;

WHEREAS, the District is funded by ad valorem taxes assessed against real and business personal property located within the District;

WHEREAS, the tax rate adopted by the Board of Trustees ("School Board") of the Royal Independent School District consists of two components: (1) a maintenance and operations rate (\$1.17), which if applied to total taxable value, will impose the amount of taxes needed to fund the maintenance and operations expenditures of the District for the upcoming year ("M&O"); and (2) an interest and sinking fund rate (\$.488817), which is the rate necessary to pay the District's debt payments for the upcoming year ("I&S");

WHEREAS, State of Texas enacted policy that requires local school districts to secure voter approval to increase the tax rate for maintenance and operation when it exceeds the base rate;

WHEREAS, a Tax Ratification Election ("TRE") gives local voters the opportunity to support raising the total tax rate to the rate adopted by the School Board, which is \$1.658817 and which exceeds the District's rollback rate, \$1.528817 and which results in an increase in the M&O portion of the tax rate by \$0.13 per \$100 valuation;

WHEREAS, the School Board has passed a resolution that if the TRE passes, the School Board shall voluntarily reduce the I&S portion of the tax rate from \$0.488817 to \$0.358817, which when coupled with an M&O rate of \$1.17, yields a total tax rate of \$1.528817, such that the resulting total rate remains unchanged;

WHEREAS, the tax ratification has the potential to increase State funding to the district by \$1,600,000 per year, resulting in a potential net benefit of \$600,000 per year to the District and no increased tax rate to the taxpayers;

WHEREAS, investing money into the quality of education provided to Brookshire-Pattison area students is an investment in the financial and economic future of the community.

THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY:

RESOLVED, that The West I-10 Chamber of Commerce supports the efforts of the Royal Independent School District to seek additional State funding in conjunction with local dollars raised through local taxes.

RESOLVED, that The West I-10 Chamber of Commerce urges the local voters to vote in favor of the Tax Ratification Election scheduled for November 08, 2016.

The foregoing resolution was adopted by the Board of Directors on October 18, 2016.



Corinne Vahalik, President